

U.S. House and Senate Notification
Monday, July 26, 2010

To: Congressional Health Staff

From: Amy Hall
Director, Office of Legislation
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Subject: CMS Announces \$2.25 billion in Grants to Extend the Money Follows the Person Rebalancing Demonstration to More States

Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a new grant solicitation to encourage states not yet part of the *Money Follows the Person Rebalancing (MFP) Demonstration* to apply for grant funds. The Affordable Care Act included an extension of the MFP demonstration program for an additional 5 years (the funding was scheduled to expire at the end of FY 2011). The extension of the MFP Demonstration Program through 2016 offers States substantial resources and additional program flexibilities to remove barriers and improve people's access to community supports and independent living arrangements.

Due to the *HHS Community Living Initiative*, and resources made available through the Affordable Care Act, more people with disabilities and chronic care needs will have greater opportunities to live in their communities. In celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Secretary Sebelius is encouraging states to take advantage of the numerous community initiatives within the Affordable Care Act and leverage those options through active participation in the MFP demonstration.

Under the MFP demonstration, states will receive an enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) for a one-year period for each individual they transition from an institution to a qualified home and community-based program. States will be able to transition multiple population groups including the elderly, people with intellectual, developmental or physical disabilities, mental illness or those who have a dual diagnosis. The enhanced FMAP funding will then be used by states to expand services and supports. In addition, states receiving a MFP grant award will focus on re-balancing their long-term care systems needs by increasing the use of home and community-based services and decreasing the use of institutional care.

A copy of the invitation to apply for the "FY2010 Money Follows the Person Rebalancing Grant Demonstration," including the application forms and information concerning a national call for applicants, will be posted at www.grants.gov. For more details about Money Follows the Person and a PDF copy of the solicitation, please visit the CMS website at: http://www.cms.gov/CommunityServices/20_MFP.asp.

If you have questions about this notification, please contact the CMS Office of Legislation.

Thank you.